

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 PER-01 A-01 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OPR-02

SY-05 DODE-00 PM-04 PRS-01 L-03 H-02 /058 W

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O 281308Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8468

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1543

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, MA, US

SUBJECT: GDRM EXPELS EMBASSY PERSONNEL

REF: STATE 2392332

1. DURING CONTACT SEPT 27 WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND MFA DIRECTOR OF BILATERAL AFFAIRS, CHARGE WAS INFORMED THAT GDRM PLANS TO RESPOND WITHIN NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS TO OUR SEPT 23 NOTE CONCERNING EXPULSIONS. NEITHER OFFICIAL KNEW WHAT CONTENTS OF GDRM REPLY WOULD BE. HOWEVER, DIRECTOR OF BILATERAL AFFAIRS, WITH WHOM I HAD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BENNETT'S AND ALLEN'S ACTIVITIES, SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD SEND NOTE TO FORMALLY RECORD OUR VIEWS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES SINCE OUR ORAL PRESENTATION TO HIM WOULD BE WEIGHED SERIOUSLY. I PROPOSE, HOWEVER, THAT WE AWAIT GDRM REPLY BEFORE TAKING FURTHER ACTION.

2. WE HAVE STILL NOT SOLVED RIDDLE OF TWINING'S INCLUSION

ON LIST GIVEN TO ME SEPT 22 (TWINING'S NAME DID NOT APPEAR ON FORMAL NOTE FROM MFA). CHIEF OF PROTOCOL SEPT 27 LINKED TWINING'S NAME WITH ALLEGED USE OF EMBASSY VEHICLE (S) AS RESULT OF SOME IMPRECISE INFORMATION HE HAD RECEIVED, AND HE HAS ASKED, ON INFORMAL BASIS, FOR A LIST OF
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EMBASSY VEHICLES WITH LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS. I PLAN TO

GIVE HIM SUCH LIST ASAP.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE PICKED UP RUMOR THAT BENNETT AND TWO MARINE SECURITY GUARDS WERE SEEN IN THE VICINITY OF AMPEFILOHA SCHOOL COMPLEX LATE AFTERNOON SEPT 14 AFTER THEY HAD RECEIVED WORD OF DEMONSTRATIONS AND KNEW THAT I WAS NEAR BY AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. BENNETT ET AL, AFTER DETERMINING THAT I HAD RETURNED TO THE EMBASSY, HAD GONE PART OF THE WAY TOWARD AMPEFILOHA IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT MALAGASY EMPLOYEE OF EMBASSY HAD SAFELY RETURNED HOME TO PROTECT HER YOUNG DAUGHTER. THIS INFORMATION CAME FROM STUDENT SOURCES KNOWN TO USIS EMPLOYEE.

4. AS BEST AS WE CAN TELL, RADIO MADAGASCAR HAS NOT REPORTED ON EXPULSIONS SINCE FACTUAL ACCOUNTS OF SEPT 23-24. MOST TANANARIVE NEWSPAPERS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE PROVIDED EXPECTED COMMENTS, WITH REFERENCE TO CIA ACTIVITIES AND A QUOTE FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN THAT "IN A COUNTRY WHERE THERE IS A US EMBASSY, THERE MUST BE CIA SPIES".SHEINBAUM

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